

MDJH

April 11th, 2016



NLES D

MACDONALD DRIVE JUNIOR HIGH

110 Macdonald Drive Junior High
St. John's, NL A1A 2K9



Parent Newsletter

School Council Meeting

There will be a School Council Meeting on Monday, April 11th, 2016 in the Conference Room beginning at 7:00 pm.

Macdonald Drive Community Market

MDJH will be holding its first community market on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at the Macdonald Drive Junior High gymnasium, just in time for Mother's Day.

Admission to the event is \$2.00. All proceeds from the event will go towards the school's breakfast program and the enhancement of technology across the curriculum.

Please help support our event by liking and sharing our page on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mdjhcommunitymarket/>

Interested vendors should check out the information/registration form on the event link on our page or contact Krista Houlihan (kristahoulihan@nlesd.ca).

Call for Grade 7/8 Parent Volunteers for Grade 9 School Leaving

We are seeking Grade 7/8 Parents to help out in the cafeteria during the Grade 9 School leaving Ceremony on May 27th. Please contact the administration if you are interested in help us out.

Sarah Osmond: sarahosmond@nlesd.ca or Craig Squires: craigsquires@nlesd.ca

Regional Science Fair

Macdonald Drive Junior High will be hosting The Regional Science Fair on Friday, April 22nd to Saturday, April 23rd.

Important Upcoming Dates:

- School Council Meeting: Monday, April 11th, 2016
- PD Day for teachers: May 6th (tentative)
- MDJH Community Market: Saturday, May 7th, 2016
- Grade 9 School Leaving: May 27th (details to follow)

MDJH Science Fair Winners going to the Regionals

We are very proud to announce that the following students will be attending the Regional Science Fair. We wish them continued success at the regionals.

Grade 7 LFI Ecosystems projects:

Allison Borgaonkar and Brooke Coffey
Chelsea Stack and Georgia Livingstone
Dana Stanbridge and McKenna Mercer
Victoria French and Regan Scott

Experiment/Model Projects - going to represent MDJH at the Regional Science Fair (which this year will be held at our own school on Apr 22 and 23)

Grade 7

Perros Mathioudakis
Jack Goldsworthy
Victoria Smith
Emma Kannenberg and Kate Williams
Max Brown and Sam Sheppard
Momin Anwar

Grade 8

Andrew Howell and Andrew Curtis
Julianna Koen-Alonso
Madison Noseworthy and Anastasia Yanova
Angus Best and John Shea
Martha Snelgrove and Daniel Gosse
Aaron Sarkar

Grade 9

Katie Steeves
Andrew Ross
Beth Hanrahan
Jenna Evans and Caroline Keats
Marie Kelly
Holly Stack



Band Notes—April 11-15, 2016

ROTARY MUSIC FESTIVAL:

Parents have been sent emails with information and permission slips – if you did not get one, please contact me ASAP.

Performance times:

Grade 8/9 Band Clinic and adjudication –
TUESDAY, April 26 MUN School of Music 1:15-2:00
Grade 7 Band Clinic and adjudication
Thursday, April 28, MUN School of Music 2:05-2:50
Jazz Band Clinic and adjudication
Sunday, May 1 9:20- 10:05
Evening concert for ALL BANDS
Sunday, May 1 at Holy Heart Auditorium – 7:00

Parents and friends are welcome to attend the clinic and adjudication sessions – they are free. Tickets for the evening concert are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children not in the concert – it is cash only at the door.

Practice times are more important than ever as we try to polish our performance – this is the schedule for this week.

	Mon. April 11	Tues. April 12	Wed. April 13	Thurs. April 14	Fri. April 15
	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 1	Day 2
1		Grade 7 Percussion			
2	Grade 7 Flutes				Grade7 FULL BAND
3		Grade 8/9 FULL BAND	Grade 7 FULL BAND		
4	Grade 7 Clarinets	Grade 7 Trombones Baritones Tenor Saxes		Grade 8/9 FULL BAND	
5	Grade 7 Alto Saxes				

DRAMA CLUB

The MDJH drama club are doing an original play for young audiences titled, **"Ray: The Feather Boa Boy."** This play will be performed at the *Eastern Drama Festival* matinee on Saturday, April 18th at the LSPU Hall (approx. 3:00 PM ..time is approximate as we are the second play that day). The target audience for MDJH's play are grades 3 - 6.

Drama students will be attending the festival workshops on Friday, April 17th.

The play has been funded through the "Safe and Caring Schools" grant program. It explores the subject of gender stereotypes. As part of the process, students had the opportunity to explore movement with local choreographer, Lynn Panting. MDJH students will be performing for some of our feeder schools in the coming weeks. Best of luck to our drama club. Break a leg.....

Students: Kate Cadigan / Sophie Doyle / Natalie Baird / Adam Jewer / Chris Everett / Milo Lee / Kearra Chevarie / Julia Brake / Holly Stack / Juan Hiedra / Martha Snelgrove / Emma Dawe / Madeline Hart

Ms. Donna Mills and the drama club students would like to thank staff and parents for their support.



RNC Initiative for the Month of April



Royal Newfoundland
Constabulary

Parents/Guardians,

The Newfoundland and Labrador English School District (NLESD) makes every effort to ensure the students of our province are provided with the safest educational experience possible and in doing so partners with local police forces for various safety-focused initiatives.

This memo is to advise you that throughout the month of April, the NLESD will be partnering with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC) to focus on student transportation (busing) efforts on the Northeast Avalon. Police will be monitoring vehicle/bus activity and will focus on traffic violations including (but not limited to): speeding; passing a school bus when the stop sign is deployed; distracted driving (texting/phone etc....) ; and other offenses under the *Highway Traffic Act*.

During this initiative it is possible that your child's school bus may be closely monitored by a police officer and/or a police vehicle. If you should notice a police presence near your child's bus, we urge you to not share via social media, as it may impact the ability of the RNC to get an accurate picture of typical school bus interaction with traffic.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school administration.

Thank you for your cooperation.



What's Happening at MacDonald Drive Junior High

Activities/Clubs	Time	Room	Teacher Sponsor
Chess	Day 7 @ 12:10pm	205	Ms. Kinsella /Ms. Parsons
Math Homework Haven	Monday @ 2:30pm-3:30pm	LRC	Math Department
Knitting	Tuesday @ 11:40 am-12:33pm. Bring lunch.	227	Ms. Osmond/ Ms. Penney
Lego Robotics (Fall)	Tuesday @ 2:30pm to 4:00pm	123	Mr. Smith Mr. Thorne
ROV (Spring)	Tuesday @ 2:30pm to 4:00pm	123	Mr. Smith Mr. Thorne
LGBTQ	Day 3	124	Ms. Brunet /Mr. Dyer
French Tutoring	Tuesday @ 12:05pm	109A	Ms. Glynn
Drama	TBA	109A	Ms. D. Mills
Art Club	Day 3 in@ 11:50 Room 227 at lunch time	227	Ms. Penney
Arts and Letters	TBA	215	Ms. E. Mills
Math League	Wednesday @ 12:05pm	208	Ms. Doyle
Photography	Wednesday @ 2:30pm	220	Ms. Quann /Mr. Wragg
Year Book	TBA	TBA	Ms. Quann
LRC	12:05-12:33pm	LRC	Ms. Power
Student Council	As needed	219	Ms. Quann
Intramurals	TBA (on-going) except Wed.	Gym	Mr. Mercer
Recycling	After School	108	Mr. Devine
Maker Technology Club	Tuesdays@ 2:45-4:00	110A/119	Mr. Gillard// Ms. Murray



Intramurals

Grade Level Intramurals this month is volleyball. See schedule of games posted on the gym door. Games take place at lunch time in the Gym.



Student Absences/Tardiness

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please contact the office via phone 709 753 8240 or email one of our school secretaries:

natashawellon@nlesd.ca / kimwalsh@nlesd.ca

Your child's homeroom teacher should be contacted via e-mail, prior to the start of the school day on the day of the absence or have your child bring a note explaining the absence to his/her homeroom teacher when he/she returns. Attendance is very important for your child's academic success. If he/she is out for an extended period of time due to illness, please contact your child's teacher to get any missed work and check the homework site regularly. Students need to be in school by 8:20 AM at the latest to ensure they are ready for their morning classes. After lunch they need to be back in school by 12:33 PM to ensure they are ready for afternoon classes.



Bell Schedule

Doors open: 8:05 am.

Warning bell: 8:20 am (5 mins)

Homeroom: 8:25 am- 8:34 am

Period 1: 8:34 am– 9:30 am

Period 2: 9:30 am—10:26 am

Recess: 10:26 am—10:43 am

Warning Bell: 10:39 am (4 mins)

Period 3: 10:43 am– 11:39 am

Lunch: 11:39 a,- 12:33 pm

Warning Bell: 12:33 pm (5 mins)

Period 4: 12:38 pm– 1:34 pm

Period 5: 1:34 pm—2:30 pm

Allergy Alert

We have a number of students with life-threatening allergies to various products. See the list below:

No nuts	No Fish
No peanuts	No Shellfish
No latex	No perfume / cologne / sprays

Note: No soy products



Electronic Devices

Electronic devices (ipads, ipods, phones) are not permitted for use during instructional/classroom time unless under the direction of a teacher. and permission has been given to use the device **All phones should be turned off during class time and placed in the appropriate place as directed by the teacher.** These devices are only permitted to be used in the morning prior to class starting, during recess, lunch period, and after school.

If a student does not follow rules pertaining to electronic devices in the classroom they will be sent to the office whereby home contact will be made. If the electronic device is not rendered the student in question will be sent home. As well, a student using an electronic device during class time or at any other time throughout the day (hallways) during instructional time will have it confiscated and submitted to the office. Repeat offenders will require parents to collect the item from the office. We are not responsible if these items are lost or stolen.

If you need to contact your child while he/she is in school, please call the school number at

709 753 8240



Construction Update



Building renovations are ongoing. There will be no disruptions to our student learning environment as construction will be done after school hours. And during weekends. There will be changes to Individual teacher classrooms, to the same alternate classroom, while windows are being installed. Students will be given notice when this happens. This will minimize any disruptions as we move forward. We do appreciate your continued patience and support while this project continues. Please feel free to contact the administration if you have any questions regarding construction.

Celebrating Student's Successes

We want to acknowledge and celebrate the accomplishments of the students of MDJH. We have a wall of celebration where we will place a certificate of acknowledgement highlighting participation and success in a variety of activities. We want to know if your child has participated in any plays, musicals or has been on a team that has won some title or has been recognized in any individual competition. We need your help with this. Please let us know so we can proudly display this on our wall. Please email colettequann@nlesd.ca with Celebrate *YOUR CHILD'S*

Europe 2017

Any student interested in going to France and Italy during Easter of 2017 should see Ms. Quann for information. Anyone wishing to sign up for this trip should register as soon as possible to avail of possible discounts. Email Colette Quann at colettequann@nlesd.ca for details.





Parents/Guardians,

The Newfoundland and Labrador English School District makes every effort to ensure the students of our province are provided with the safest educational experience possible and in doing so partners with local police forces for various safety-focused initiatives.

This memo is to advise you that throughout the month of April, the NLES District will be partnering with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary to focus on student transportation (busing) efforts on the Northeast Avalon. Police will be monitoring vehicle activity around school buses and will focus on traffic violations including (but not limited to): speeding; passing a school bus when the stop sign is deployed; distracted driving; and other offences under the *Highway Traffic Act*.

During this initiative it is possible that your child's school bus may be closely monitored by a police officer and/or a police vehicle. If you should notice a police presence near your child's bus, we urge you to not share via social media, as it may impact the ability of the RNC to get an accurate picture of typical school bus interaction with traffic.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school administration.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Safety on School Grounds

It is very important that all students exercise caution on and around school grounds at all times. We have a lot of on-going construction around our building. Students need to use crosswalks, be aware of construction zones, act and behave accordingly when going off school property for lunch (parks and eating establishments), and refrain from using the MDE playground. We strongly encourage you to be alert and careful at all times. As well, to drivers, please adhere to speed limits in our school zone and be extra alert.

Student Drop Off / Pick Up

- Stay to the left in a single line as you enter off Toronto Street.
- Buses proceed to the right coming off Toronto Street.
- Student drop off area: Drivers are asked to proceed as far as possible to the stop sign on the left side of the cement divider before dropping your children off. Buses stay on the right side of the cement divider.
- Please wait for the vehicles in front of you to drop off student(s) before moving forward (do not pull out and pass please).
- Through traffic (vehicles going to MDE) stay to the left.
- Ms. Osmond and/or Mr. Squires will be out (rain, snow or shine) each day to help direct traffic.
- Note: Only staff and alternate transportation should travel around the building during peak times (morning and after school).
- There is absolutely no turning right at the STOP sign by the student entrance. If you need to access the front of the school please go around the school. It is one way traffic.

Yearbooks

You can now pre-order yearbooks for the 2015-2016 school year. They are available at a cost of \$20.

Order forms are available at the office or from Ms. Quann. **ALL MDJH STUDENTS** are included in the yearbook. It is a nice keepsake for **all** junior high students that highlight school events and memories. Our yearbook includes all school events from September 2015- June 2016 and are delivered next fall.



Yearbook Photos

Many school groups and activities ongoing. Anyone having a team or group photo to submit to the yearbook can please email their photo to ColetteQuann@nlesd.ca.

Photography Club



The photography club is interested in taking a variety of pictures of any groups or clubs at MDJH to use in this year's yearbook. All we need is some notice and a schedule. Please email Ms. Quann (colettequann@nlesd.ca) or Mr. Trevor Wragg (twragg@hotmail.com) to advise of practice times, events or games and we can arrange to have your group's picture taken.



MDJH Breakfast Program:

MDJH Breakfast Club continues to feed approximately 300+ students daily. We would like to thank our **grade 8** parents for their donations. We are still accepting donations of the following items:

- Granola bars (nut free)
- hot cereal
- jam
- Cheese strings
- apple juice tetrapak
- orange juice tetrapak
- Cheerios
- Honeycomb
- Corn Flakes

Monetary donations are always accepted at the school office.

Thank you for your continued support





Google Classroom/Google Apps for Education (GAPE) @ MDJH

Students at MDJH are using Google Classroom and several of the Google Apps available to them. Through an agreement between the NL English School District and Google; teachers and students in our province have access to a new online education platform called Google Classroom. As schools and teachers in our province realize the features and benefits of using this Google product more teachers with their students will be accessing the tools and resources (i.e. the Apps and features) available to them. During this school year all Grade 8 and 9 students at MDJH have been using Google Classroom in their Technology Education courses. Soon all grade 7 students will be using Google Classroom either for their Technology Education course or for another curriculum area.

In order for students to access their Google Classroom they need to “Log In” to the website (<https://classroom.google.com>). Once logged in students will be able to access Classrooms created by teachers with specific assignments/projects/resources linked. Google Classroom is new to schools in Newfoundland and Labrador, it is so new that the MDJH teaching staff received a full day of in-service on the topic of Google Classroom, Google Drive and Google Apps on February 19th. Many teachers at MDJH will be looking for opportunities to use this resource in different subject areas in the future.

As we typically expect students to be prepared for all classes including the bringing of appropriate books, pencils, pens we ask students to be prepared for accessing their Google Classroom by memorizing or recording their account details (individual username and password) so that they may be able to work in Google Classroom or with Google Apps when required. This username and password will be used in high school as well so it needs to be secure and retrievable when needed.

The “Maker Technology Club”

This club has been meeting regularly after school on Tuesdays (2:45 to 4:00) in room 110A (Mr. Gillard/Ms. Murray). The main topic focus has been computer programming in the Python language and we currently have a core group of students who are interested in continuing in this direction. At this time we are interested in starting to expand our “technology” themed topics. If you are interested in exploring a DIY suitably planned and created in a Technology Lab or may be just taking the time to explore a design oriented software, this club is for you. Bring your ideas to our next meeting. New members are welcome.

New Technology Production Lab

There is a lot of curiosity for what is behind the Room 119 door. Our Production/Computer Lab space is now available for student use.

New Technology Production Lab - Technology Section Up and Operational



Request for Support: 3-D Printing

Have you heard about Additive Manufacturing? Maybe Not. The popular term is 3-D printing; try Googling the concept and you will find that there has been a significant number of articles written about the innovative uses of 3-D Printing as a production/manufacturing process. MDJH is looking to expose its students to a design process utilizing this current technology. Even though the price tag on 3-D Printing has dropped significantly in the last couple of years, it is still a specialty item and we need support from our school community to invest in this direction. Is there a company or companies that would be interested in assisting us in making this initiative a reality? The startup costs for 3-D printing is approximately \$4000.00. Any interested persons please contact Wade Gillard (wadegillard@nlesd.ca).



Chartwells has introduced a **NEW and CONVENIENT** way to purchase food at the school cafeteria with the **Zipthru DINE WITH US Reloadable Card!** Just like any gift card, a balance is loaded on a card and declines as purchases are made. The online function of this program provides convenience for parents to purchase, reload and monitor spending as well as set up an account to protect the remaining funds. In 4 easy steps you will be confident that your child has been provided with healthy meal options and a protected balance. This relieves the need for a packed lunch or carrying cash. Purchasing or reloading \$100 or more will give you an **ADDITION** of 10% bonus dollars directly added to your balance. Visit www.zipthru-card.ca to purchase an e-Certificate by email today. Present the printed e-Certificated to the cafeteria and receive a **Zipthru** card with the designated balance!



PUT AWAY
THE CASH
AND DINE WITH US!

Reloadable Card
Simply load a balance and use like cash.

Get 10% **Bonus Dollars** with a minimum \$100 load

...the fast & easy way to buy fresh food at school.

Load today!
Online at zipthru-card.ca or with cashier

Eatlearnlivecanada.ca

Zipthru **Chartwells**
Eat-Learn-Live

Digital Awareness: What Every Parent Should Know

Teaching Cyber-ethics

Cyber-ethics has to play an important role in keeping our children safe and sound around our technology-driven space. It's necessary that kids understand these digital ethics to flourish without tripping. Electronic devices offer many appealing and entertaining features, but beneath all that treasured anonymity, there are a few dangerous threats lurking around.

What kids need to learn the most is that whatever they will post online, it's never going to go down ever due to the prevalence of screenshots and instant-sharing. So if your kid ever posts something inappropriate, it's going to be extremely difficult for you to delete it, entirely.

To ensure that our kids learn all the necessary online ethics, we need to follow these 6 steps.

Start young. Don't wait for the "right" time. Start teaching your kids digital manners as soon as they get their hands on an internet-ready device.

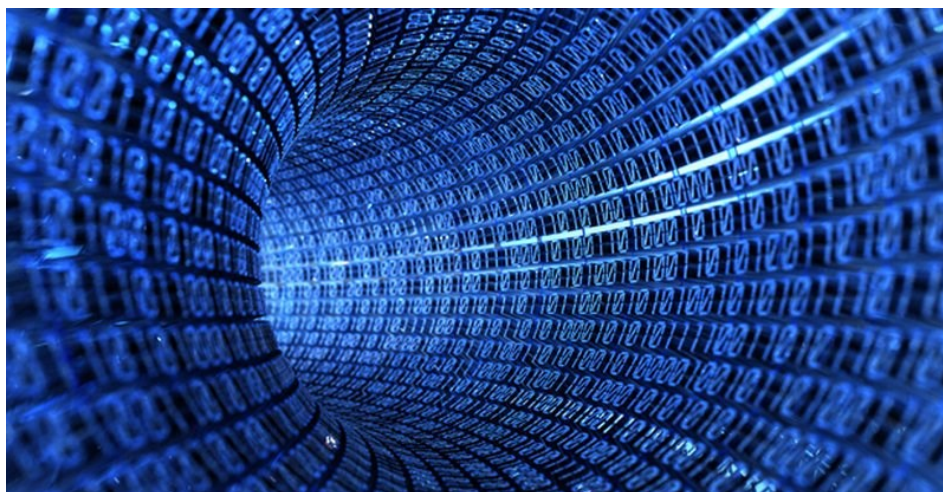
Words hurt. Your kids need to understand that if they want others to be nice to them, they need to do the same.

Inculcate empathy at an early age. Seeks ways to encourage your kids to be more compassionate towards others.

Be the example. It's very convenient for kids to simply do what's done in front of them by their parents. And if you are copying or downloading pirated stuff, you can expect them to do the same. It starts with you, and if you don't find it wrong, your kids won't either!

Tell them how to cite. Your kids can avoid numerous problems by the simple rule of citation. Tell your kids how they can credit others' intellectual property and why they need to do that.

Setup a technology contract. We have discussed a smartphone contract before, but this time, we would want you to create a contract that covers every kind of technology and the consequences for breaching the rules laid down in it.



Teachers /Parents



Please see below about our upcoming **Kids Eat Smart** Gala on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at the Delta St. John's.

Our gala helps raise funds to help support our 246 Kids Eat Smart Clubs throughout the Province. Each school day we serve over 23,000 meals!

Join us for an entertaining evening which includes a silent and live auction, children's choir, comedian entertainment, and to hear the wonderful stories about our 246 KES Clubs in the Province!

To discuss ticket purchase please contact our office @ 709 722-1996.



Don't be disappointed, Book your table today!

April 30, 2016 Delta St. John's

- Table of 10 - \$1500
- Some sponsorship opportunities available
- For more information call 722-1996 or email gala@kidseatsmart.ca

The Kitchen Party
KIDS EAT SMART FOUNDATION
GALA 2016

Public Service Announcements

Eastern Health to Hold Information Sessions for Parents

Eastern Health advises the public that the Mental Health and Addictions Program will be holding information sessions for parents of children and adolescents who may be experiencing mental health issues.



Sessions are scheduled as follows:

- i) April 14, 2016 – *The Age of Weed: Marijuana Use Among Youth* –from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- li) May 12, 2016 – *Parenting in the 21st Century* from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Registration is required and additional details, including location, will be provided at that time. **To register or for information, please call (709) 777- 4020.**

Some grade 9 students will complete their immunization needles this week. Many of the students are already done with the exception of a few.

PARENT NEWSLETTER

Macdonald Drive Junior High

110 Macdonald

Drive

St. John's NL

A1A 2K9

Phone: 709-753-8240

Fax: 709-753-1243

E-mail: sarahosmond@nlesd.ca



We're on the web!
<http://www.mdj.k12.nf.ca>